

those persons here who act as though they want to defend that real estate at all cost. Well I have a little real estate also. I don't want to see the shift either. I want to tell Senator Burrows that I know he's sincere in this, but I want to tell Senator Burrows, Senator Kahle, and the other gentlemen that I'm not in favor of a shift to those other areas. The facts are that at the present time personal property is appraised at actual value, and in some cases in excess of that, then it is assessed at 35 percent of that. If you take the actual records of the Tax Commissioner you will find that across the State of Nebraska real estate is assessed at somewhere around 19 to 20 percent of actual value. So let the record be clear, and I want it for the record that if real estate taxes do increase it's not because of LB 518, it's because the State Board of Equalization finally got off their rearends and did what they were supposed to do under the law and reappraised the value of the real estate. When that happens, regardless of mill levies, if the mill levy stays the same you're going to find an increase in real estate. Senator Kahle is concerned about county government. He says we know what we can assess. Well if they don't need the money in Buffalo County, all they need to do is roll back the levy and it's not going to increase the tax on real estate. But the facts are that as of now personal property is appraised at actual value or greater, and it is assessed at 35 percent, and you're paying according to the law. Real property, and again let the record show that I am one who, because of the fact that I have to own land to farm, I own some land, the real property is not assessed at 35 percent. The concern that has been demonstrated here is this--as this goes on there is going to be \$31 million to be made up from real estate values. If reappraisal takes place across the State of Nebraska, as it has been mandated, and as it must if it's to be equitable, then you're going to find one of two things that have to happen, either local governments are going to have to do the same thing that we do here, they're going to have to set priorities and determine what you're going to do, or you're going to let taxes increase. I think the people of the State of Nebraska have had a belly full. I think they have told this Legislature, they have told county boards, they have told school boards, they have told city councils that we don't want anymore government, we want less. I think it is the responsibility of the elected people to tell the citizen that if you want more of these things it's going to cost you more. The reason behind the equity of 518, and you can argue with me, I know some of you believe differently sincerely, as you spread the load you increase the interest in what the money goes for. The reason Senator Newell spoke so eloquently in opposition to 518 is that he knows he's going to pay a little bit more for the cost of government and it pains him, and rightfully so. The more it pains, the more conservative Senator Newell is going to be. He's going to come a little bit farther to the middle, closer to the middle. That is where responsible government should be. You need to meet the needs, but not the wants of all society. Senator Burrows amendment, if we added that \$30 million in there, would be an open invitation first of all to a veto, which we know, and which we won't condone, but secondly, it would be an open invitation to county governments to continue to do what they have in the past. I have a letter from one of my people in the country. He says, "we don't want to have any shift. We want full funding". The facts are that they're getting, Senator Newell, I said this before, twice as much now as they ever thought they would get. They want full funding. Now I